ple of Adoor are put to great inconvenience and trouble owing to the absence of proper roads in several of the villages in that constituency?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Yes; the matter is engaging attention.

Fresh taxation.

145. Mr. A. B. Salem.—Is the Government aware that it has been stated in this House that no fresh taxation of any kind would be imposed on the public of Cochin without the same being discussed in this House?

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—Government are not aware of having given any definite assurance of the kind.

Details of amounts budgetted but not spent.

146. Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state (in tabular form if convenient):—

(a) the amounts budgetted for expenditure under various major heads but which were not spent or utilised in the respective years, for the years 1100, 1101, 1102 and 1103 (11 months only);

(b) the reasons, if any, for not utilising the amounts budgetted?

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—(a) A statement containing the information in respect of 1100, 1101 and 1102 is appended. (*Vide Appendix I.*) As for 1103, the figures for 11 months cannot be had, as the accounts from Medam to Mithunam are not ready.

(b) The collection of the information asked for requires much time and labour as it involves a scrutiny of each detailed head of account and has to be gathered from each Head of Department which is not easily possible.

The appointment of the present Acting Chief Engineer.

147. Dr. A. G. Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

A. (1) why a superannuated officer from elsewhere was appointed to act for the Chief Engineer recently went on leave;

(2) what pension does the acting incumbent draw from his former appointment;

(3) is there any rule in our State that when a pensioner accepts any appointment, his pay (of the new appointment) with his pension should not exceed his salary at the time of retirement; if so, is the rule observed in these appointments?

B. (a) Are there no competent Engineers in the State

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Pervice at present to act as Chief Engineer *even* for these short Seriods;

(b) is it a fact that an Engineer who is still in service was acting as the Chief Engineer on a former occasion ;

(c) if the answer is in the affirmative, why his claims were now overlooked ;

(d) was the permanent Chief Engineer consulted before the acting appointment was made ;

(e) if so, whom did he recommend ?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—A. (1) Mr. John Kuriyan, retired Executive Engineer of Travancore, is the officer appointed. He is not superannuated. As he has the reputation of being an experienced irrigation expert, Government thought it expedient to appoint him to act as Chief Engineer during the period of the leave.

(2) Travancore Sirkar Rs. 400.

(3) Yes. The rule applies only to pensioners of this State

B. (a) There was no question of competency (vide answer to question A-1).

(b) Yes.

(c) No claims have been overlooked (vide answer to question A-1).

(d) and (e) Government do not propose to divulge confidential consultations made by the Diwan with the Heads of Departments.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Sir, may I know whether the present Chief Engineer was pensioned after completing his full service in Travancore ?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Yes.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—At what age, was he pensioned, please ?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—At the age of 56 Sir.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Here it is stated in reply to the first part of my question that 'Mr. John Kuriyan, retired Executive Engineer of Travancore,is the officer appointed. He is not superannuated. As he has the reputation of being an experienced irrigation expert, Government thought it expedient to appoint him to act as Chief Engineer during the period of the leave.' Most probably in our State he begins his life as a new officer. Am I to understand so, Sir ?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—'Superannuated' literally means 'impaired or disabled.' It is so given in the dictionary.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—I know that.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—According to our Service Regulation it was used only in that sense.

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Dr. A. G. Menon.—Am I to take that he has just begun his life as a new officer in our State ?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—As an officer? No.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Then he is superannuated ?

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—In the dictionary the word "superannuated" means 'impaired and disabled bodily.'

Dr. A. G. Menon.—It is a code word. Here, in the rules, a person, an officer who is above 55, is considered to be superannuated.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—There is that meaning in the dictionary also.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—If that word is taken according to the dictionary meaning, any officer can be superannuated. A boy or a young man may be superannuated. I think that it is not in that sense that the word is used in our codes.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Here it is used like that It was meant only 'impaired or disabled.'

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Even according to the dictionary, 'superannuated' has its o wn meaning A person becomes superannuated when a certain age is reached.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—May I know what is the age limit, Sir, according to the dictionary ? A certain person and certain age; what is that age ?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—The term 'superannuated' means only 'impaired'or 'disabled'. It is a convention to take it as such according to the rules.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—According to our rules 55 is taken as the limit. The Hon'be Member himself admits that he was retired on his 56th year. From that statement am I to take he has commenced his official career in our State as a new officer, and whether he can continue another 25 years and then only he will become superannuated ? Am I to understand so ?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—No.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—But the answer is 'He is not superannuated'. It does not convey any meaning. So I want to bring it to your notice. That is all.

Recommendations of the Cranganur Road Committee.

148. മിസ്റ്റർ എ. കുഞ്ഞുമൊയ്തീൻ.—(a) ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥാന ദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരടങ്ങിയതും ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിനാൽ സ്വീകരിക്കപ്പെട്ടതുമായ കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂർ റോഡ് കമ്മിറ്റി ചെയ്തിരിക്കുന്ന നിർദ്ദേശങ്ങളും സ്കീമുകളും എന്തെല്ലാമെന്നും ദയവു ചെയ്തു പറയാമോ;

(b) അവയിൽ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു് അംഗീകരിക്കാത്തതും അംഗീകരിച്ചിട്ടു് നടപ്പിൽ വരുത്താത്തതുമായ കാര്യങ്ങൾ എന്തൊക്കെയാ

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